## Executive Summary – Enforcement Matter – Case No. 50021 Harris County Municipal Utility District No. 150 RN102952884 Docket No. 2015-0172-MWD-E

**Order Type:** 

1660 Agreed Order

**Findings Order Justification:** 

N/A

Media:

**MWD** 

**Small Business:** 

No

Location(s) Where Violation(s) Occurred:

Harris County Municipal Utility District No. 150, 11621 C. Walters Road, Houston, approximately three miles west of the intersection of Interstate Highway 45 and Greens Bayou Crossing, Houston, Harris County

Type of Operation:

Wastewater treatment facility

Other Significant Matters:

Additional Pending Enforcement Actions: No

Past-Due Penalties: No

Other: N/A

Interested Third-Parties: None

Texas Register Publication Date: July 24, 2015

Comments Received: No

**Penalty Information** 

**Total Penalty Assessed:** \$12,375

**Amount Deferred for Expedited Settlement:** \$2,475 **Amount Deferred for Financial Inability to Pay:** \$0

**Total Paid to General Revenue:** \$0 **Total Due to General Revenue:** \$0

Payment Plan: N/A

Supplemental Environmental Project ("SEP") Conditional Offset: \$9,900

Name of SEP: Houston-Galveston Area Council (Third-Party Pre-Approved)

**Compliance History Classifications:** 

Person/CN - Satisfactory Site/RN - Satisfactory

Major Source: Yes

Statutory Limit Adjustment: N/A Applicable Penalty Policy: April 2014

## Executive Summary – Enforcement Matter – Case No. 50021 Harris County Municipal Utility District No. 150 RN102952884 Docket No. 2015-0172-MWD-E

## **Investigation Information**

Complaint Date(s): N/A

**Complaint Information**: N/A

Date(s) of Investigation: November 18, 2014

Date(s) of NOE(s): January 8, 2015

## Violation Information

Failed to comply with permitted effluent limitations for *Escherichia coli* and pH [Tex. Water Code § 26.121(a)(1), 30 Tex. Admin. Code § 305.125(1), and Texas Pollutant Discharge Elimination System ("TPDES") Permit No. WQ0011863001, Effluent Limitations and Monitoring Requirements Nos. 1 and 3].

## Corrective Actions/Technical Requirements

## **Corrective Action(s) Completed:**

N/A

## **Technical Requirements:**

- 1. The Order will require the Respondent to implement and complete a SEP (See SEP Attachment A).
- 2. The Order will also require the Respondent to within 90 days, submit written certification of compliance with the permitted effluent limitations of TPDES Permit No. WQ0011863001, including specific corrective actions that were implemented at the Facility to achieve compliance and copies of the most current self-reported discharge monitoring reports, demonstrating at least three consecutive months of compliance with all permitted effluent limitations.

## Litigation Information

Date Petition(s) Filed: N/A Date Answer(s) Filed: N/A SOAH Referral Date: N/A

**Hearing Date(s):** N/A **Settlement Date:** N/A

## Executive Summary – Enforcement Matter – Case No. 50021 Harris County Municipal Utility District No. 150 RN102952884 Docket No. 2015-0172-MWD-E

## **Contact Information**

TCEQ Attorney: N/A

**TCEQ Enforcement Coordinator:** Christopher Bost, Enforcement Division, Enforcement Team 1, MC 169, (512) 239-4575; Candy Garrett, Enforcement Division, MC 219, (512) 239-1456

**TCEQ SEP Coordinator**: Stuart Beckley, SEP Coordinator, Enforcement Division, MC 219, (512) 239-3565

**Respondent:** Cordia Jackson, President, Harris County Municipal Utility District No. 150, 3700 Buffalo Speedway Suite 830, Houston, Texas 77098

**Respondent's Attorney:** Kara Richardson, Law Firm of Marks Richardson PC, 3700 Buffalo Speedway, Suite 830, Houston, Texas 77098

#### Attachment A

# Docket Number: 2015-0172-MWD-E SUPPLEMENTAL ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECT

<b>Respondent:</b>	Harris County Municipal Utility District No. 150
Penalty Amount:	Nine Thousand Nine Hundred Dollars (\$9,900)
SEP Offset Amount:	Nine Thousand Nine Hundred Dollars (\$9,900)
Type of SEP:	Contribution to a Third-Party Pre-Approved SEP
Third-Party Administrator:	Houston-Galveston Area Council
Project Name:	Wastewater Treatment Assistance
Location of SEP:	Austin, Brazoria, Chambers, Colorado, Fort Bend, Harris, Galveston, Grimes, Liberty, Matagorda, Montgomery, San Jacinto, Waller, Walker, and Wharton Counties

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality ("TCEQ") agrees to offset the administrative penalty amount assessed in this Agreed Order for the Respondent to contribute to a Supplemental Environmental Project ("SEP"). The offset is equal to the SEP Offset Amount set forth above and is conditioned upon completion of the project in accordance with the terms of this Attachment A.

## 1. Project Description

## a. Project

The Respondent shall contribute the SEP Offset Amount to the Third-Party Administrator named above. The contribution will be to the **Houston-Galveston Area Council** for the *Wastewater Treatment Assistance* project. The contribution will be used in accordance with the SEP between the Third-Party Administrator and the TCEQ (the "Project"). Specifically, the SEP Offset Amount will be used to provide assistance to low-income homeowners to repair or replace malfunctioning or failing onsite wastewater treatment systems. The Third-Party Administrator may also provide extension of first-time sewer service, pump out service, and water conservation equipment such as low-flow showerheads. The Third-Party Administrator shall review applications for eligibility for assistance at its own expense. The Third-Party Administrator shall seek bids from local onsite wastewater treatment system contractors to perform the work. The Third-Party Administrator shall ensure that all Project work is performed in compliance with local, state, and federal rules relating to onsite wastewater treatment systems. The SEP will be done in accordance with all federal, state, and local environmental laws and regulations.

All dollars contributed will be used solely for the direct cost of implementing the Project, including, but not limited to supplies, materials, and equipment. Any portion of this contribution that is not spent on the specifically identified SEP may, at the discretion of the Executive Director ("ED"), be applied to another pre-approved SEP.

The Respondent's signature affixed to this Agreed Order certifies that the Respondent has no prior commitment to make this contribution and that it is being contributed solely in an effort to settle this enforcement action. The Respondent shall not profit in any manner from this SEP.

#### b. Environmental Benefit

Many of the onsite wastewater treatment systems currently in use in the Third-Party Administrator's region are substandard or in disrepair, resulting in the discharge of sewage into local neighborhoods, ditches, and waterways. These septic system failures coupled with proximity to the coast and numerous waterways increases the need to identify problem systems and replace or repair them to prevent further release of raw sewage into the environment.

Each failing septic system that is replaced will improve the water quality in waterways and watersheds by preventing raw sewage with high levels of bacteria, viruses, and protozoa from entering the environment. Sewage overflows may reach rivers, lakes, streams, or aquifer systems. In addition to potential spread of disease, sewage in the environment contributes excess nutrients, metals, and toxic pollutants that contaminate water quality, cause algae blooms, and kill fish and other organisms in aquatic habitats. Removal of sewage as a source of pollution will also protect ground, surface, and drinking water from contamination.

This Project has the potential to not only improve water quality but also improve the public health for a sector of the population that is least able to afford health care. Diseases that result from sewage contaminated water range from mild gastroenteritis (causing stomach cramps and diarrhea) to life threatening ailments such as cholera, dysentery, infectious hepatitis, and sever gastroenteritis. People can be exposed through sewage in drinking water sources, direct contact from water in lawns or streets, and inhalation and skin absorption.

#### c. Minimum Expenditure

The Respondent shall contribute at least the SEP Offset Amount to the Third-Party Administrator and comply with all other provisions of this SEP.

#### 2. Performance Schedule

Within 30 days after the effective date of this Agreed Order, the Respondent must contribute the SEP Offset Amount to the Third-Party Administrator. The Respondent shall make the check payable to **Houston-Galveston Area Council SEP** and shall mail the contribution with a copy of the Agreed Order to the following address.

Houston-Galveston Area Council Attention: Todd Running, Water Resources Program Manager 3555 Timmons Lane, Suite 120 Houston, Texas 77027

## 3. Records and Reporting

Concurrent with the payment of the SEP Offset Amount, the Respondent shall provide the Enforcement SEP Coordinator with a copy of the check and transmittal letter indicating full payment of the SEP Offset Amount to the Third-Party Administrator. The Respondent shall mail a copy of the check and transmittal letter to the following address.

Texas Commission on Environmental Quality Enforcement Division Attention: SEP Coordinator, MC 219 P.O. Box 13087 Austin, Texas 78711-3087

# 4. Failure to Fully Perform

If the Respondent does not perform its obligations under this Attachment A, including full expenditure of the SEP Offset Amount and submittal of the required reporting described in Sections 2 and 3 above, the ED may require immediate payment of all or part of the SEP Offset Amount.

In the event the ED determines that the Respondent failed to fully implement and complete the Project, the Respondent shall remit payment for all or a portion of the SEP Offset Amount, as determined by the ED, and as set forth in the attached Agreed Order. After receiving notice of failure to complete the SEP, the Respondent shall include the docket number of the attached Agreed Order and a note that the enclosed payment is for the reimbursement of a SEP, shall make the check payable to "Texas Commission on Environmental Quality," and shall mail it to the following address.

> Texas Commission on Environmental Quality Litigation Division Attention: SEP Coordinator, MC 175 P.O. Box 13087 Austin, Texas 78711-3087

## 5. Publicity

Any public statements concerning this SEP and/or project, made by or on behalf of the Respondent must include a clear statement that **the project was performed as part of the settlement of an enforcement action brought by the TCEQ**. Such statements include advertising, public relations, and/or press releases.

## 6. Recognition

The Respondent may not seek recognition for this contribution in any other state or federal regulatory program.

## 7. Other SEPs by TCEQ or Other Agencies

The SEP Offset Amount identified in this Attachment A and in the attached Agreed Order has not been, and shall not be, included as a SEP for the Respondent under any other Agreed Order negotiated with the TCEQ or any other agency of the state or federal government.

#### Penalty Calculation Worksheet (PCW) Policy Revision 4 (April 2014) PCW Revision March 26, 2014 Assigned 12-Jan-2015 **PCW** 26-May-2015 Screening 26-Jan-2015 **EPA Due** RESPONDENT/FACILITY INFORMATION Respondent Harris County Municipal Utility District No. 150 Reg. Ent. Ref. No. RN102952884 Facility/Site Region 12-Houston Major/Minor Source Major CASE INFORMATION Enf./Case ID No. 50021 No. of Violations 1 Docket No. 2015-0172-MWD-E Order Type 1660 Media Program(s) Water Quality Government/Non-Profit Yes Multi-Media Enf. Coordinator Christopher Bost EC's Team Enforcement Team 1 Admin. Penalty \$ Limit Minimum Maximum \$25,000 Penalty Calculation Section TOTAL BASE PENALTY (Sum of violation base penalties) \$11,250 ADJUSTMENTS (+/-) TO SUBTOTAL 1 Subtotals 2-7 are obtained by multiplying the Total Base Penalty (Subtotal 1) by the indicated percentage. **Compliance History** Subtotals 2, 3, & 7 10.0% Enhancement \$1,125 Enhancement for two months of self-reported effluent violations. Notes Culpability No 0.0% Enhancement Subtotal 4 \$0 Notes The Respondent does not meet the culpability criteria. Good Faith Effort to Comply Total Adjustments Subtotal 5 \$0 0.0% Enhancement\* Subtotal 6 Economic Benefit \$0 Total EB Amounts Capped at the Total EB \$ Amount \$1.011 Estimated Cost of Compliance \$10,000 SUM OF SUBTOTALS 1-7 Final Subtotal \$12,375 OTHER FACTORS AS JUSTICE MAY REQUIRE \$0 Adjustment Reduces or enhances the Final Subtotal by the indicated percentage. Notes

Deferral offered for expedited settlement.

STATUTORY LIMIT ADJUSTMENT

Notes

PAYABLE PENALTY

Reduces the Final Assessed Penalty by the indicated percentage. (Enter number only; e.g.

Final Penalty Amount

Final Assessed Penalty

20.0% Reduction Adjustment

20 for 20% reduction.)

\$12,375

\$12,375

-\$2,475

\$9,900

Screening Date 26-Jan-2015

Docket No. 2015-0172-MWD-E

PCW

**Case ID No.** 50021

Respondent Harris County Municipal Utility District No. 150

Reg. Ent. Reference No. RN102952884 Media [Statute] Water Quality

Enf. Coordinator Christopher Bost

Policy Revision 4 (April 2014) PCW Revision March 26, 2014

**Compliance History Worksheet** 

	Number of	Enter Number Here	Adjust.
NOVs	Written notices of violation ("NOVs") with same or similar violations as those in the current enforcement action (number of NOVs meeting criteria)	2 .	10%
	Other written NOVs	0	0%
	Any agreed final enforcement orders containing a denial of liability (number of orders meeting criteria)	0	0%
Orders	Any adjudicated final enforcement orders, agreed final enforcement orders without a denial of liability, or default orders of this state or the federal government, or any final prohibitory emergency orders issued by the commission		0%
Judgments and Consent	Any non-adjudicated final court judgments or consent decrees containing a denial of liability of this state or the federal government (number of judgments or consent decrees meeting criteria)	0	0%
Decrees	Any adjudicated final court judgments and default judgments, or non-adjudicated final court judgments or consent decrees without a denial of liability, of this state or the federal government		0%
Convictions	Any criminal convictions of this state or the federal government (number of counts)	0	0%
Emissions	Chronic excessive emissions events (number of events)	0	0%
Audits	Letters notifying the executive director of an intended audit conducted under the Texas Environmental, Health, and Safety Audit Privilege Act, 74th Legislature, 1995 (number of audits for which notices were submitted)		0%
	Disclosures of violations under the Texas Environmental, Health, and Safety Audit Privilege Act, 74th Legislature, 1995 (number of audits for which violations were disclosed)	0	0%
		ease Enter Yes or No	
	Environmental management systems in place for one year or more	No :	0%
Other	Voluntary on-site compliance assessments conducted by the executive director under a special assistance program	No	0%
	Participation in a voluntary pollution reduction program	No	0%
	Early compliance with, or offer of a product that meets future state or federal government environmental requirements	No	0%
	Adjustment Per	rcentage (Sub	total 2)
eat Violator (	Subtotal 3)		
No	Adjustment Per	rcentage (Sub	total 3)
npliance Histo	ory Person Classification (Subtotal 7)		
Satisfactory	Performer Adjustment Per	rcentage (Sub	total 7)
npliance Histo	ory Summary		
Compliance History Notes	Enhancement for two months of self-reported effluent violations.		

Screening Date	22000000000000000000000000000000000000	PCW
Respondent Case ID No.		Revision 4 (April 2014) evision March 26, 2014
Reg. Ent. Reference No.		evision March 20, 2014
Media [Statute]	Water Quality	
Enf. Coordinator		0700
Violation Number		
Rule Cite(s)	Tex. Water Code § 26.121(a)(1), 30 Tex. Admin. Code § 305.125(1), and Texas  Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit No. WQ0011863001, Effluent	
	Limitations and Monitoring Requirements Nos. 1 and 3	
Violation Description	Failed to comply with permitted effluent limitations, as documented in a record review conducted on November 18, 2014 and shown in the attached violation	
	table.	
You wanted		
TO A CONTRACTOR OF THE PROPERTY OF THE PROPERT	Base Penalty [	\$25,000
>> Environmental Pronei	ty and Human Health Matrix	
	Harm	
Release OR Actual	Major Moderate Minor	<b>S</b>
Potential	Percent 15,0%	
'		
>>Programmatic Matrix Falsification	Major Moderate Minor	
	Percent 0.0%	
	n or the environment has been exposed to insignificant amounts of pollutants which	
Notes do not exceed	levels that are protective of human health or environmental receptors as a result of the violation.	
	THE VIOLATION AND ADMINISTRATION	
	Adjustment \$21,250	
	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	40 750
**************************************	L L	\$3,750
Violation Events		
Number of \	/iolation Events 3 91 Number of violation days	
Trains of the	Total of Events 1	***************************************
anninger of the state of the st	daily	
The state of the s	weekly contribution of the second of the sec	
mark only one with an x	quarterly Violation Base Penalty	\$11,250
William A	semiannual	
отничения по	annual single event single event	9900000
		1777
	Three quarterly events are recommended.	***************************************
		881-01-00
<b>Good Faith Efforts to Com</b>		\$0
THE PROPERTY OF THE PROPERTY O	Before NOE/NOV NOE/NOV to EDPRP/Settlement Offer  Extraordinary	
мини	Ordinary	
and the state of t	N/A x (mark with x)	
and the state of t	The Respondent does not meet the good faith criteria for	
areareann	Notes this violation.	
·	Violation Subtotal	\$11,250
Economic Benefit (EB) for	this violation Statutory Limit Test	
Fetimate	ed EB Amount \$1,011 Violation Final Penalty Total	\$12,375
Louillau	-	
	This violation Final Assessed Penalty (adjusted for limits)	\$12,375

	-	•					
<u></u>		conomic	***********	M O	rksneet		
	,	Municipal Utility D	District No. 150				
Case ID No.							
Reg. Ent. Reference No.	RN102952884						
Media	Water Quality					Percent Interest	Years of
Violation No.	1					Percent interest	Depreciation
						5.0	15
	Item Cost	<b>Date Required</b>	Final Date	Yrs	Interest Saved	Onetime Costs	EB Amount
Item Description	No commas or \$						
Delayed Costs							
Equipment				0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Buildings				0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other (as needed)				0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Engineering/Construction				0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Land				0.00	\$0	n/a	\$0
Record Keeping System				0.00	\$0	n/a	\$0
Training/Sampling				0.00	\$0	n/a	\$0
Remediation/Disposal				0.00	\$0	n/a	\$0
Permit Costs				0.00	\$0	n/a	\$0
Other (as needed)	\$10,000	30-Nov-2013	8-Dec-2015	2.02	\$1,011	n/a	\$1,011
Notes for DELAYED costs  Avoided Costs	require	ed is the first date	of non-complia	nce. F	inal date is the est	plement corrective a limated date of com for one-time avoid	pliance.
Disposal	7,,,,,	1	costs before	0.00	\$0 so	\$0	\$0
Personnel		1		0.00	\$0 \$0	\$0 \$0	\$0 \$0
nspection/Reporting/Sampling				0.00	\$0 \$0	\$0 \$0	\$0 \$0
Supplies/Equipment		1		0.00	\$0 \$0	\$0 \$0	\$0 \$0
Financial Assurance [2]				0.00	\$0	\$0 \$0	\$0 \$0
ONE-TIME avoided costs [3]				0.00	\$0	\$0	<u>\$0</u>
Other (as needed)				0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Notes for AVOIDED costs							
Approx. Cost of Compliance		\$10,000			TOTAL		\$1,011

## Harris County Municipal District No. 150 Texas Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit No. WQ0011863001 Docket No. 2015-0172-MWD-E

	E. coli Daily Maximum Concentration	pH Minimum
Months:	Limit = 200 CFU/100 mL	Limit = 6.0 standard units
November 2013	c	3.5
April 2014	651	c
August 2014	731	c

E. coli = Escherichia coli
CFU/100 mL = Colony Forming
Units Per 100 Milliliters
c = Compliant

			,



# TCEQ Compliance History Report

PUBLISHED Compliance History Report for CN600737555, RN102952884, Rating Year 2014 which includes Compliance History (CH) components from September 1, 2009, through August 31, 2014.

Customer, Respondent, CN600737555, Harris County Municipal

Classification: SATISFACTORY

Rating: 0.71

or Owner/Operator:

Utility District No. 150 RN102952884, HARRIS COUNTY MUD

Classification: SATISFACTORY

Rating: 0.71

**Complexity Points:** 

Regulated Entity:

150 11

Repeat Violator: NO

CH Group:

08 - Sewage Treatment Facilities

Location:

11621 C. Walters Road, approximately three miles west of the intersection of Interstate Highway

45 and Greens Bayou Crossing in Houston, Harris County, Texas

TCEQ Region:

**REGION 12 - HOUSTON** 

ID Number(s):

WASTEWATER PERMIT WQ0011863001

**WASTEWATER EPA ID TX0072893** 

**WATER LICENSING LICENSE 1011250** 

**WASTEWATER LICENSING** LICENSE WQ0011863001

**STORMWATER PERMIT TXR05W500** 

Compliance History Period: September 01, 2009 to August 31, 2014

Rating Year: 2014

Rating Date: 09/01/2014

**Date Compliance History Report Prepared:** February 25, 2015

Agency Decision Requiring Compliance History: Enforcement

**Component Period Selected:** February 25, 2010 to February 25, 2015

TCEQ Staff Member to Contact for Additional Information Regarding This Compliance History.

Name: Jacquelyn Green

Phone: (512) 239-2587

#### **Site and Owner/Operator History:**

1) Has the site been in existence and/or operation for the full five year compliance period?

YES

2) Has there been a (known) change in ownership/operator of the site during the compliance period?

NO

3) If **YES** for #2, who is the current owner/operator?

N/A

4) If YES for #2, who was/were the prior

N/A

owner(s)/operator(s)?

5) If **YES**, when did the change(s) in owner or operator

occur?

# Components (Multimedia) for the Site Are Listed in Sections A - J

A. Final Orders, court judgments, and consent decrees:

N/A

B. Criminal convictions:

N/A

C. Chronic excessive emissions events:

N/A

D. The approval dates of investigations (CCEDS Inv. Track. No.):

Item 1 Item 2 March 08, 2010

(833585)

Item 3

May 13, 2010

(833587)

April 12, 2010

(833586)

Item 4

June 16, 2010 (847102)

Item 5	July 26, 2010	(861570)	Item 27	September 28, 2012	(1081033)
Item 6	September 10, 2010	(874840)	Item 28	October 12, 2012	(1065829)
Item 7	October 14, 2010	(882433)	Item 29	November 13, 2012	(1065830)
Item 8	November 16, 2010	(888876)	Item 30	December 14, 2012	(1065831)
Item 9	December 12, 2010	(897237)	Item 31	February 13, 2013	(1081032)
Item 10	March 09, 2011	(917260)	Item 32	April 03, 2013	(1096660)
Item 11	April 15, 2011	(927780)	Item 33	May 20, 2013	(1107622)
Item 12	May 17, 2011	(938953)	Item 34	June 18, 2013	(1111261)
Item 13	July 17, 2011	(953612)	Item 35	September 10, 2013	(1125952)
Item 14	August 10, 2011	(960229)	Item 36	September 17, 2013	(1130504)
Item 15	September 19, 2011	(966282)	Item 37	September 23, 2013	(1136272)
Item 16	October 04, 2011	(972298)	Item 38	November 11, 2013	(1141653)
Item 17	November 11, 2011	(978457)	Item 39	January 20, 2014	(1154182)
Item 18	December 15, 2011	(985268)	Item 40	February 13, 2014	(1161508)
Item 19	January 11, 2012	(991548)	Item 41	March 14, 2014	(1168145)
Item 20	February 21, 2012	(998895)	Item 42	April 14, 2014	(1175304)
Item 21	April 12, 2012	(1010993)	Item 43	June 16, 2014	(1188390)
Item 22	May 09, 2012	(1017357)	Item 44	July 14, 2014	(1194134)
Item 23	June 19, 2012	(1025158)	Item 45	August 25, 2014	(1200099)
Item 24	July 05, 2012	(1032495)	Item 46	October 17, 2014	(1213174)
Item 25	August 20, 2012	(1038918)	Item 47	November 17, 2014	(1219430)
Item 26	September 12, 2012	(1047833)	Item 48	December 15, 2014	(1225214)

## E. Written notices of violations (NOV) (CCEDS Inv. Track. No.):

A notice of violation represents a written allegation of a violation of a specific regulatory requirement from the commission to a regulated entity. A notice of violation is not a final enforcement action, nor proof that a violation has actually occurred.

1 Date:

Self Report? YES

04/30/2014 (1181496)

CN600737555

Classification:

Moderate

Moderate

Citation:

Date:

2D TWC Chapter 26, SubChapter A 26.121(a)

30 TAC Chapter 305, SubChapter F 305.125(1)

Description:

Failure to meet the limit for one or more permit parameter

08/31/2014 (1206765)

CN600737555

Self Report? YES Classification:

Citation:

2D TWC Chapter 26, SubChapter A 26.121(a)

30 TAC Chapter 305, SubChapter F 305.125(1)

Description:

Failure to meet the limit for one or more permit parameter

#### F. Environmental audits:

N/A

2

#### G. Type of environmental management systems (EMSs):

#### H. Voluntary on-site compliance assessment dates:

N/A

#### I. Participation in a voluntary pollution reduction program:

N/A

## J. Early compliance:

N/A

#### **Sites Outside of Texas:**

N/A

# TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY



Š	BEFORE THE
· §	
§	TEXAS COMMISSION ON
§	
§	
§ .	ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
	3

## AGREED ORDER DOCKET NO. 2015-0172-MWD-E

#### I. JURISDICTION AND STIPULATIONS

On \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality ("the Commission" or "TCEQ") considered this agreement of the parties, resolving an enforcement action regarding Harris County Municipal Utility District No. 150 ("Respondent") under the authority of Tex. Water Code chs. 7 and 26. The Executive Director of the TCEQ, through the Enforcement Division, and the Respondent represented by Attorney Kara Richardson of the Law Firm of Marks Richardson PC together stipulate that:

- 1. The Respondent owns and operates a wastewater treatment facility located at 11621 C. Walters Road, approximately three miles west of the intersection of Interstate Highway 45 and Greens Bayou Crossing in Harris County, Texas (the "Facility").
- 2. The Respondent has discharged municipal waste into or adjacent to any water in the state under Tex. Water Code ch. 26.
- 3. The Executive Director and the Respondent agree that the Commission has jurisdiction to enter this Agreed Order, and that the Respondent is subject to the Commission's jurisdiction.
- 4. The Respondent received notice of the violations alleged in Section II ("Allegations") on or about January 13, 2015.
- 5. The occurrence of any violation is in dispute and the entry of this Agreed Order shall not constitute an admission by the Respondent of any violation alleged in Section II ("Allegations"), nor of any statute or rule.

- 6. An administrative penalty in the amount of Twelve Thousand Three Hundred Seventy-Five Dollars (\$12,375) is assessed by the Commission in settlement of the violations alleged in Section II ("Allegations"). Two Thousand Four Hundred Seventy-Five Dollars (\$2,475) is deferred contingent upon the Respondent's timely and satisfactory compliance with all the terms of this Agreed Order. The deferred amount will be waived upon full compliance with the terms of this Agreed Order. If the Respondent fails to timely and satisfactorily comply with all requirements of this Agreed Order, the Executive Director may require the Respondent to pay all or part of the deferred penalty. Nine Thousand Nine Hundred Dollars (\$9,900) shall be conditionally offset by the Respondent's completion of a Supplemental Environmental Project ("SEP").
- 7. Any notice and procedures, which might otherwise be authorized or required in this action, are waived in the interest of a more timely resolution of the matter.
- 8. The Executive Director and the Respondent agree on a settlement of the matters alleged in this enforcement action, subject to final approval in accordance with 30 TEX. ADMIN. CODE § 70.10(a).
- 9. The Executive Director may, without further notice or hearing, refer this matter to the Office of the Attorney General of the State of Texas ("OAG") for further enforcement proceedings if the Executive Director determines that the Respondent has not complied with one or more of the terms or conditions in this Agreed Order.
- 10. This Agreed Order shall terminate five years from its effective date or upon compliance with all the terms and conditions set forth in this Agreed Order, whichever is later.
- 11. The provisions of this Agreed Order are deemed severable and, if a court of competent jurisdiction or other appropriate authority deems any provision of this Agreed Order unenforceable, the remaining provisions shall be valid and enforceable.

#### II. ALLEGATIONS

As owner and operator of the Facility, the Respondent is alleged to have failed to comply with permitted effluent limitations, in violation of Tex. Water Code § 26.121(a)(1), 30 Tex. Admin. Code § 305.125(1), and Texas Pollutant Discharge Elimination System ("TPDES") Permit No. WQ0011863001, Effluent Limitations and Monitoring Requirements Nos. 1 and 3, as documented in a record review conducted on November 18, 2014 and shown in the table below:

	E. coli Daily Maximum Concentration	pH Minimum
Months:	Limit = 200 CFU/100 mL	Limit = 6.0 standard units
November 2013	c	3.5
April 2014	651	c
August 2014	731	c

E. coli = Escherichia coli CFU/100 mL = Colony Forming Units Per 100 Milliliters c = Compliant

#### III. DENIALS

The Respondent generally denies each allegation in Section II ("Allegations").

#### IV. ORDERING PROVISIONS

1. It is, therefore, ordered by the TCEQ that the Respondent pay an administrative penalty as set forth in Section I, Paragraph 6 above. The payment of this administrative penalty and the Respondent's compliance with all the terms and conditions set forth in this Agreed Order resolve only the allegations in Section II. The Commission shall not be constrained in any manner from requiring corrective action or penalties for violations which are not raised here. Administrative penalty payments shall be made payable to "TCEQ" and shall be sent with the notation "Re: Harris County Municipal Utility District No. 150, Docket No. 2015-0172-MWD-E" to:

Financial Administration Division, Revenue Operations Section Attention: Cashier's Office, MC 214 Texas Commission on Environmental Quality P.O. Box 13088 Austin, Texas 78711-3088

2. The Respondent shall implement and complete a SEP in accordance with TEX. WATER CODE § 7.067. As set forth in Section I, Paragraph 6 above, Nine Thousand Nine Hundred Dollars (\$9,900) of the assessed administrative penalty shall be offset with the condition that the Respondent implements the SEP defined in Attachment A incorporated herein by reference. The Respondent's obligation to pay the conditionally offset portion of the administrative penalty assessed shall be discharged upon final completion of all provisions of the SEP agreement.

3. It is further ordered that the Respondent shall, within 90 days after the effective date of this Agreed Order, submit written certification of compliance with the permitted effluent limitations of TPDES Permit No. WQoo11863001, including specific corrective actions that were implemented at the Facility to achieve compliance and copies of the most current self-reported discharge monitoring reports, demonstrating at least three consecutive months of compliance with all permitted effluent limitations. The certification shall include detailed supporting documentation including photographs, receipts, and/or other records to demonstrate compliance with the permitted effluent limitations. The certification shall be notarized by a State of Texas Notary Public and include the following certification language:

"I certify under penalty of law that I have personally examined and am familiar with the information submitted and all attached documents, and that based on my inquiry of those individuals immediately responsible for obtaining the information, I believe that the submitted information is true, accurate and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fines and imprisonment for knowing violations."

The certification shall be submitted to:

Order Compliance Team Enforcement Division, MC 149A Texas Commission on Environmental Quality P.O. Box 13087 Austin, Texas 78711-3087

with a copy to:

Water Section Manager Houston Regional Office Texas Commission on Environmental Quality 5425 Polk Avenue, Suite H Houston, Texas 77023-1486

- 4. The provisions of this Agreed Order shall apply to and be binding upon the Respondent. The Respondent is ordered to give notice of the Agreed Order to personnel who maintain day-to-day control over the Facility operations referenced in this Agreed Order.
- 5. If the Respondent fails to comply with any of the Ordering Provisions in this Agreed Order within the prescribed schedules, and that failure is caused solely by an act of God, war, strike, riot, or other catastrophe, the Respondent's failure to comply is not a violation of this Agreed Order. The Respondent shall have the burden of establishing to the Executive Director's satisfaction that such an event has occurred. The Respondent shall notify the Executive Director within seven days after the Respondent becomes aware of a delaying event and shall take all reasonable measures to mitigate and minimize any delay.

- 6. The Executive Director may grant an extension of any deadline in this Agreed Order or in any plan, report, or other document submitted pursuant to this Agreed Order, upon a written and substantiated showing of good cause. All requests for extensions by the Respondent shall be made in writing to the Executive Director. Extensions are not effective until the Respondent receives written approval from the Executive Director. The determination of what constitutes good cause rests solely with the Executive Director.
- 7. This Agreed Order, issued by the Commission, shall not be admissible against the Respondent in a civil proceeding, unless the proceeding is brought by the OAG to: (1) enforce the terms of this Agreed Order; or (2) pursue violations of a statute within the Commission's jurisdiction, or of a rule adopted or an order or permit issued by the Commission under such a statute.
- 8. This Agreed Order may be executed in separate and multiple counterparts, which together shall constitute a single instrument. Any page of this Agreed Order may be copied, scanned, digitized, converted to electronic portable document format ("pdf"), or otherwise reproduced and may be transmitted by digital or electronic transmission, including but not limited to facsimile transmission and electronic mail. Any signature affixed to this Agreed Order shall constitute an original signature for all purposes and may be used, filed, substituted, or issued for any purpose for which an original signature could be used. The term "signature" shall include manual signatures and true and accurate reproductions of manual signatures created, executed, endorsed, adopted, or authorized by the person or persons to whom the signatures are attributable. Signatures may be copied or reproduced digitally, electronically, by photocopying, engraving, imprinting, lithographing, electronic mail, facsimile transmission, stamping, or any other means or process which the Executive Director deems acceptable. In this paragraph exclusively, the terms "electronic transmission", "owner", "person", "writing", and "written" shall have the meanings assigned to them under TEX. BUS. ORG. CODE § 1.002.
- 9. Pursuant to 30 Tex. Admin. Code § 70.10(b) and Tex. Gov't Code § 2001.142, the effective date of this Order is the date it is signed by the Commission or the Executive Director. A copy of this fully executed Order shall be provided to each of the parties.

## SIGNATURE PAGE

## TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

For the Commission		
Rama Marrie of	1/22/16	
For the Executive Director	Date	***************************************

I, the undersigned, have read and understand the attached Agreed Order. I am authorized to agree to the attached Agreed Order on behalf of the entity indicated below my signature, and I do agree to the terms and conditions specified therein. I further acknowledge that the TCEQ, in accepting payment for the penalty amount, is materially relying on such representation.

I also understand that failure to comply with the Ordering Provisions, if any, in this order and/or failure to timely pay the penalty amount, may result in:

- A negative impact on compliance history;
- Greater scrutiny of any permit applications submitted;
- Referral of this case to the Attorney General's Office for contempt, injunctive relief, additional penalties, and/or attorney fees, or to a collection agency;
- Increased penalties in any future enforcement actions;
- Automatic referral to the Attorney General's Office of any future enforcement actions;
   and
- TCEO seeking other relief as authorized by law.

In addition, any falsification of any compliance documents may result in criminal prosecution.

Hana E. Richardson 6/15/2015

Signature Date

Kara E. Richardson
Name (Printed or typed)
Authorized Representative of
Harris County Municipal Utility District No. 150

Attorney for the Harris County
Title Municipal Wility District No. 150

**Instructions**: Send the original, signed Agreed Order with penalty payment to the Financial Administration Division, Revenue Operations Section at the address in Section IV, Paragraph 1 of this Agreed Order.

## **Attachment A**

# Docket Number: 2015-0172-MWD-E SUPPLEMENTAL ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECT

Respondent:	Harris County Municipal Utility District No. 150
Penalty Amount:	Nine Thousand Nine Hundred Dollars (\$9,900)
SEP Offset Amount:	Nine Thousand Nine Hundred Dollars (\$9,900)
Type of SEP:	Contribution to a Third-Party Pre-Approved SEP
Third-Party Administrator:	Houston-Galveston Area Council
Project Name:	Wastewater Treatment Assistance
Location of SEP:	Austin, Brazoria, Chambers, Colorado, Fort Bend, Harris, Galveston, Grimes, Liberty, Matagorda, Montgomery, San Jacinto, Waller, Walker, and Wharton Counties

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality ("TCEQ") agrees to offset the administrative penalty amount assessed in this Agreed Order for the Respondent to contribute to a Supplemental Environmental Project ("SEP"). The offset is equal to the SEP Offset Amount set forth above and is conditioned upon completion of the project in accordance with the terms of this Attachment A.

## 1. Project Description

## a. Project

The Respondent shall contribute the SEP Offset Amount to the Third-Party Administrator named above. The contribution will be to the **Houston-Galveston Area Council** for the *Wastewater Treatment Assistance* project. The contribution will be used in accordance with the SEP between the Third-Party Administrator and the TCEQ (the "Project"). Specifically, the SEP Offset Amount will be used to provide assistance to low-income homeowners to repair or replace malfunctioning or failing onsite wastewater treatment systems. The Third-Party Administrator may also provide extension of first-time sewer service, pump out service, and water conservation equipment such as low-flow showerheads. The Third-Party Administrator shall review applications for eligibility for assistance at its own expense. The Third-Party Administrator shall seek bids from local onsite wastewater treatment system contractors to perform the work. The Third-Party Administrator shall ensure that all Project work is performed in compliance with local, state, and federal rules relating to onsite wastewater treatment systems. The SEP will be done in accordance with all federal, state, and local environmental laws and regulations.

All dollars contributed will be used solely for the direct cost of implementing the Project, including, but not limited to supplies, materials, and equipment. Any portion of this contribution that is not spent on the specifically identified SEP may, at the discretion of the Executive Director ("ED"), be applied to another pre-approved SEP.

The Respondent's signature affixed to this Agreed Order certifies that the Respondent has no prior commitment to make this contribution and that it is being contributed solely in an effort to settle this enforcement action. The Respondent shall not profit in any manner from this SEP.

#### b. Environmental Benefit

Many of the onsite wastewater treatment systems currently in use in the Third-Party Administrator's region are substandard or in disrepair, resulting in the discharge of sewage into local neighborhoods, ditches, and waterways. These septic system failures coupled with proximity to the coast and numerous waterways increases the need to identify problem systems and replace or repair them to prevent further release of raw sewage into the environment.

Each failing septic system that is replaced will improve the water quality in waterways and watersheds by preventing raw sewage with high levels of bacteria, viruses, and protozoa from entering the environment. Sewage overflows may reach rivers, lakes, streams, or aquifer systems. In addition to potential spread of disease, sewage in the environment contributes excess nutrients, metals, and toxic pollutants that contaminate water quality, cause algae blooms, and kill fish and other organisms in aquatic habitats. Removal of sewage as a source of pollution will also protect ground, surface, and drinking water from contamination.

This Project has the potential to not only improve water quality but also improve the public health for a sector of the population that is least able to afford health care. Diseases that result from sewage contaminated water range from mild gastroenteritis (causing stomach cramps and diarrhea) to life threatening ailments such as cholera, dysentery, infectious hepatitis, and sever gastroenteritis. People can be exposed through sewage in drinking water sources, direct contact from water in lawns or streets, and inhalation and skin absorption.

## c. Minimum Expenditure

The Respondent shall contribute at least the SEP Offset Amount to the Third-Party Administrator and comply with all other provisions of this SEP.

#### 2. Performance Schedule

Within 30 days after the effective date of this Agreed Order, the Respondent must contribute the SEP Offset Amount to the Third-Party Administrator. The Respondent shall make the check payable to **Houston-Galveston Area Council SEP** and shall mail the contribution with a copy of the Agreed Order to the following address.

Houston-Galveston Area Council Attention: Todd Running, Water Resources Program Manager 3555 Timmons Lane, Suite 120 Houston, Texas 77027

## 3. Records and Reporting

Concurrent with the payment of the SEP Offset Amount, the Respondent shall provide the Enforcement SEP Coordinator with a copy of the check and transmittal letter indicating full payment of the SEP Offset Amount to the Third-Party Administrator. The Respondent shall mail a copy of the check and transmittal letter to the following address.

Texas Commission on Environmental Quality Enforcement Division Attention: SEP Coordinator, MC 219 P.O. Box 13087 Austin, Texas 78711-3087

## 4. Failure to Fully Perform

If the Respondent does not perform its obligations under this Attachment A, including full expenditure of the SEP Offset Amount and submittal of the required reporting described in Sections 2 and 3 above, the ED may require immediate payment of all or part of the SEP Offset Amount.

In the event the ED determines that the Respondent failed to fully implement and complete the Project, the Respondent shall remit payment for all or a portion of the SEP Offset Amount, as determined by the ED, and as set forth in the attached Agreed Order. After receiving notice of failure to complete the SEP, the Respondent shall include the docket number of the attached Agreed Order and a note that the enclosed payment is for the reimbursement of a SEP, shall make the check payable to "Texas Commission on Environmental Quality," and shall mail it to the following address.

> Texas Commission on Environmental Quality Litigation Division Attention: SEP Coordinator, MC 175 P.O. Box 13087 Austin, Texas 78711-3087

## 5. Publicity

Any public statements concerning this SEP and/or project, made by or on behalf of the Respondent must include a clear statement that **the project was performed as part of the settlement of an enforcement action brought by the TCEQ**. Such statements include advertising, public relations, and/or press releases.

## 6. Recognition

The Respondent may not seek recognition for this contribution in any other state or federal regulatory program.

# 7. Other SEPs by TCEQ or Other Agencies

The SEP Offset Amount identified in this Attachment A and in the attached Agreed Order has not been, and shall not be, included as a SEP for the Respondent under any other Agreed Order negotiated with the TCEQ or any other agency of the state or federal government.